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Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: *Oct 18, 2018*

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ACTION 31397
DIA:
DISTR
CJCS DJS J3(14) J5(02) J8:NMCC SECDEF(07) SECDEF:
ASD:ISA(10) :DIA(15) NMIC
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~ SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
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TRANSIT/271225Z/271418Z/001:53TOR300141S
DE RUESBAA #0530 3001340
ZNY ~~CCCCC~~
P 271225Z OCT 77
FM (b)(3):10 USC 424
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASH DC/RCI-1
INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ/SCJ2-AD
RULPAKA/CDR 193RD INF BDE, FT AMADOR CZ
RULPAFA/24COMPW/IN HOWARD AFB CZ
BT
~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ ~~NOFORN~~ 530 OCT 77
SUBJ: THIS IS IN (b)(3):10 USC 424
1. ARGENTINA (AR
2. (b)(3):10 USC 424
3. (U) GETTING CONTROL OF SECURITY FORCES
4. N/A
5. 771017
6. 771017
7. 771019, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

NOFORN

183

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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(b)(3):10 USC 424

15. DIRC: NO. ~~NOFORN TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO HOST GOVT.~~
16. SUMMARY: (U) THIS IR FORWARDS INFORMATION ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN ARGENTINA.
22. DETAILS: 1. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ Sec. 3.3(b) (1) (b)(3):10 USC A LONG DISCUSSION REGARDING THE TERRORIST SITUATION IN ARGENTINA AND EXCESSES OF GOVERNMENT SECURITY FORCES IN THE ANTI-SUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGN. HE ADVISED THAT THE TERRORIST SITUATION HAS IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS AND CURRENTLY THE SUBVERSIVES ONLY HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF CARRYING OUT LOW LEVEL, SMALL SCALE HIT AND RUN ATTACKS. HE CLAIMED THAT THERE WERE ABOUT 3,500 GUERRILLAS IN PRISON (b)(3):10 USC 424 THE GOVERNMENT HAD HIGH HOPES OF REHABILITATING A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THIS NUMBER. HE WAS VERY PROUD OF THE ARMY'S ACHIEVEMENTS AND STATED THAT IT WOULD ONLY BE A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THE LAST ELEMENTS OF RESISTENCE WERE ELMINATED. (IR (b)(3):10 USC 424 REPORTED THAT APPROXIMATELY 4000 PERSONS ARE DETAINED UNDER EXECUTIVE POWER.)
2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ THE SOURCE TURNED HIS ATTENTION TO THE ANTI-SUBVERSIVE OPERATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE HAVE BEEN EXCESSES AS WELL AS ABUSES OF HUMAN RIGHTS. HE RATIONALIZED THE PROBLEM BY EXPLAINING THAT IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO KEEP A TIGHT REIN ON A YOUNG OFFICER OR NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER WHO HAS LOST FRIENDS IN THE STRUGGLE. NEVERTHELESS, HE STATED THAT THE ARMY RECOGNIZES THAT SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO SLOW DOWN THE AGGRESSIVENESS OF THOSE INVOLVED IN COUNTER SUBVERSIVE OPERATIONS. IN EARLY TO MID JULY, THE ARMY ISSUED INSTRUCTION TO PRINCIPAL FIELD COMMANDERS TO CENTRALIZE CONTROL OF COUNTER SUBVERSIVE OPERATIONS. COMMANDERS WERE TOLD TO TIGHTEN UP CONTROL AND RESCIND PERMISSIVE ORDERS TO OPERATIVE UNITS. UNMARKED AUTOMOBILES WERE TAKEN AWAY FROM JUNIOR PERSONNEL AND THOSE INVOLVED IN CORRUPTION WERE IDENTIFIED AND INCARCERATED. MAJOR UNITS WERE INSTRUCTED TO CARRY OUT CIVIC ACTION PROGRAMS AND OR MILITARY MANEUVERES IN ORDER TO RESTORE DISCIPLINE WITHIN ARMY RANKS. (b)(3):10 USC 424
3. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ SOURCE LAMENTED THE FACT THAT THE RESTORATION OF CONTROL OVER THE FORCES WOULD BE A SLOW AND TIME CONSUMING OPERATION. HE LIKENED THE SITUATION TO A LOCOMOTIVE, BY SAYING THAT ONCE THE MACHINE IS IN MOTION IT IS DI - ICULT TO SLOW IT DOWN DUE TO ITS MOMENTUM. WHEN SOURCE WAS ASKED IF MANY POLICEMAN AND/OR MILITARY WERE FOUND RESPONSIBLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, HE RESPONDED BY SAYING THAT ONLY A FEW HAVE BEEN UNCOVERED. HE ADDED THAT THIS

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SITUATION IS VERY TICKLISH SINCE THE ARMED FORCES CAN NOT AFFORD TO DESTROY THE MORALE OF THE TROOPS WITH PUBLIC CONDEMNATIONS OF THE GUILTY. CONSEQUENTLY, MOST OF THE OFFENDERS ARE DEALT WITH INTERNALLY AND WITHOUT PUBLICITY. HE SEEMED PLEASED THAT NOT TOO MANY OFFICIALS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR EXCESSES ALTHOUGH HE ADMITTED THAT THERE WERE A NUMBER IN THE FEDERAL POLICE AND A FEW IN THE ARMY. TO EMPHASIZE THAT JUSTICE WAS BEING CARRIED OUT, HE TOLD [redacted] THAT FOUR NCO'S WERE APPREHENDED LAST WEEK AND PUT IN JAIL. (b)(3):10 USC 424

COMMENT: (C) THE SOURCE WAS VERY OPTIMISTIC IN HIS APPRAISAL OF THE SITUATION IN ARGENTINA. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THERE IS AN EFFORT UNDERWAY TO BRING THINGS UNDER CONTROL. WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE AS SUCCESSFUL AS THE SOURCE SUGGESTS, REMAINS TO BE SEEN. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT THE MILITARY HAVE FINALLY COME TO GRIPS WITH A BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM AND ARE APPARENTLY TAKING POSITIVE STEPS TO REVERSE THE SITUATION. THIS MSG COORD W/EMBASSY.

~~GDS DEC 83~~

BT

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ANNOTES

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